

February 27, 2003

Ms. Karen Smith  
Director  
Water Quality Division  
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
1110 W. Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Ms. Smith:

On December 5, 2002, EPA partially approved and partially disapproved Arizona's 2002 §303(d) list. Specifically, EPA approved the State's decisions to list 32 waters and associated pollutants and set priority rankings for these waters. EPA disapproved the State's decisions not to list 19 waterbodies and not to list additional pollutants for 3 waters already listed by the State for other pollutants. EPA further identified these additional waterbodies and pollutants with appropriate priority rankings for inclusion on the 2002 §303(d) list.

EPA provided public notice and solicited public comment on its identification of additional waters and pollutants for inclusion on Arizona's list. The comment period closed January 13, 2003. EPA has carefully reviewed the written comments received from the State and other commenters. Pursuant to the requirements of federal regulations at 40 CFR 130.7, I am hereby transmitting to you the final 2002 §303(d) list for Arizona which includes additional waters and additional pollutants for several waters already listed by the State, in addition to the 32 waters listed by the State. The additional waters and pollutants included on the final list are listed in Enclosure 1 to this letter. A detailed responsiveness summary explaining public comments received and EPA's responses is also enclosed (Enclosure 2).

With three exceptions, the additional waters and pollutants added to the list are identical to those identified for listing by EPA on December 5, 2002. First, Lyman Lake is not included on the final list for mercury because the fish consumption advisory that provided the evidence of beneficial use impairment was not issued until after the State had submitted its final list. EPA expects that the State of Arizona will consider the Lyman Lake advisory as part of the next Section 303(d) list review and revision. Second, Santa Cruz River (Canada del Oro-Guild Wash) is not listed for dissolved oxygen because EPA considered additional data provided by the commenters that was not provided to the State during its analysis, and concluded that the segment does not exceed water quality standards for dissolved oxygen. Third, dieldrin is not included in the listings of 12 segments in the Salt River/Gila River area based on the fish consumption advisory in place for these waters because recent sampling and analysis by ADEQ found that dieldrin was no longer detected in fish tissue in these segments and should no longer be included in the advisory.

EPA received 11 comment letters. Most of the comments focused on three issues- the analysis of the Santa Cruz River near Tucson, the application of narrative water quality standards for listing purposes, and the use of fish consumption advisories as evidence of water quality standards violations. We concluded that none of the comments warrants modifying the list of additional waters and pollutants identified by EPA, except for the three modifications discussed above.

We greatly appreciate the assistance rendered by your staff in reviewing the comments received concerning EPA's listing decision and look forward to working with the State during the 2004 listing process. If you have questions on any aspect of this final listing decision, feel free to give me a call at (415) 972-3435 or call David Smith of my staff at (415) 972-3416.

Sincerely,

/original signed by/

Catherine Kuhlman  
Acting Director  
Water Division

Enclosures

## Enclosure 1: List of Waters and Pollutants Added to Final 2002 Arizona Section 303(d) List

## Description of Table Columns:

**Water Body**@column identifies the water bodies on the 303(d) list.

**Watershed**@column identifies the geographical location of the water body based on State=s designation.

**Water body ID**@column specified the water body segment based on State=s designation.

**Pollutants**@column identifies the specific pollutants for which the water bodies were found to exceed water quality standards.

**Basis for Listing**@column identifies the basis for individual listing decisions.

**Priority Ranking**@column indicates the priority ranking for TMDL development associated with an individual listing decision (H = High; M = Medium; L = Low priority)

Water Body	Watershed	Water body ID	Pollutants	EPA basis for listing	Priority Ranking
Gila River Salt-Agua Fria	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-015	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Agua Fria- Waterman Wash	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-014	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Waterman Wash- Hassayampa	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-010	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Hassayampa-Centennial Wash	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-009	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Centennial Wash-Gillespie Dam	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-008	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Gillespie Dam-Rainbow Wash	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-007	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Rainbow Wash- Sand Tank	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-005	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Gila River Sand Tank-Painted Rocks Rsvr	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-001	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Painted Rocks Borrow Pit	Middle Gila	AZ 15070201-1010	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene, Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Painted Rocks Reservoir	Middle Gila	AZ 15070101-1020	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene, Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M

Water Body	Watershed	Water body ID	Pollutants	EPA basis for listing	Priority Ranking
Salt River 23 <sup>rd</sup> Ave WWTP-Gila River	Middle Gila	AZ 15060106B-001D	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene, Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Hassayampa River Buckeye Canal- Gila River	Middle Gila	AZ 15070103-001B	DDT metabolites, Toxaphene, Chlordane	Consumption advisory posted, ADEQ 1999 report	M
Lake Mary-Upper	LCR	AZ 15020015-0900	Mercury	Consumption advisory posted	H
Lake Mary-Lower	LCR	AZ 15020015-0890	Mercury	Consumption advisory posted	H
Alamo Lake	Bill Wms	AZL 15030204-0040	Mercury	Recent fish tissue data (ADEQ 2001) shows 33 out of 33 tissue samples above screening value	H
Crescent Lake	Salt	AZL 15060101-0420	pH	Exceeded water quality standards in 6 out of 8 samples	L
Mule Gulch headwaters- WWTP	San Pedro	AZ 15080301-090A	pH	Exceeded water quality standards in 7 out of 15 samples	L
Alum Gulch	Santa Cruz	AZ 15050301-581A	pH	Exceeded water quality standards in 7 out of 7 samples	L
Three R Canyon	Santa Cruz	AZ 15080301-558A	pH	Exceeded water quality standards in 8 out of 9 samples confidence	L
Granite Basin Lake	Verde	AZL 15060202-0580	DO	Exceeded water quality standards in 3 out of 7 samples	L
Whitehorse Lake	Verde	AZL 15060202-1630	DO	Exceeded water quality standards in 5 out of 11 samples; fish kill in 1999	L